

LOS ALTOS HILLS



CALIFORNIA

Los Altos Hills

TOWN NEWSLETTER

Volume XXIV No. 4

December 2000

EVENT CALENDAR

Dec. 21, Thurs.,
**PATHWAYS HOLIDAY
CAROLING EVENT.**
Meet at Town Hall, 7:30 -
8:30 pm; Hot cider &
practice. Wear warm
clothes and bring a
flashlight. Info. 948-6455.

January 20 & 21, 2001
**FRIENDS OF THE
LIBRARY BOOK
SALE.** Sat. 10 - 3 pm. &
Sunday, 12 - 3 pm.
Hillview Community
Center. Info. 948-7683

January 27, 2001, Sat.,
**SALUTE TO THE
MAYORS OF LOS
ALTOS & LOS ALTOS
HILLS.** Banquet
sponsored by the Los
Altos Chamber of
Commerce. Reservations
required. Info. 948-1455.

Feb. 10, 2001: **PATH-
WAYS HISTORY
WALK;** 10 am; Meet at
Bullis School Parking
Lot. (See Town Newslet-
ter Insert in this issue for
description).

Ongoing:

The Los Altos History
Museum is open to the
public Saturdays,
Sundays and Wednes-
days, noon to 4 pm. Info.:
948-9427

Founder Robert Buss Retires from Purissima Hills Water District Board

After serving continuously for 45 years as a Director of the Purissima Hills Water District Board, Robert Buss, Ph.D. is retiring on December 13th. Upon learning of Bob's retirement, Ernie Solomon, President of the Board of Directors stated, "We shall certainly miss his knowledge, sense of District and of the Town history, and his sharp wit at our meetings. We are all grateful for his dedication to ensuring that the Town's water supply is the very best - that is the legacy that he leaves for the residents of the Hills."

Purissima Hills County Water District was formed by election March 27, 1955. (The "county" was subsequently dropped from the title after state legislation permitted.) Based on his engineering expertise and hands-on management of the local Gerth Lane Mutual Water Company, Dr. Buss was one of the original founders of the Water District.

Dr. Buss was born in Provo, Utah in 1913. His father, subsequently a professor of Natural Science at San Jose State College, moved to Palo Alto when Bob was a 4th grader. He attended the old Mayfield School at El Camino Real and Page Mill Road. (Now a possible site for the Jewish Community Center.)

Bob later attended San Jose State as an undergraduate and then went to Stanford and received his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering in 1940. During WWII he worked as a civilian for the US Navy at Alameda and for the Harvard Radio Research Laboratory in Cambridge, MA in the area of radar and radio countermeasures. As part of this effort, he served at HQ, 15th Air Force Division in Bari, Italy evaluating effectiveness of the radar counter measures. Following a five-year faculty post at Northwestern University, he returned to Stanford where he became a professor of Electrical Engineering.

Bob and his wife Eugenia always knew they would return to the Bay Area, where their families lived and

where also, "There is something to lean your eyes against," says Bob, referring to the topography of Los Altos Hills. While living in Illinois, they missed the beauty of our rural hillsides.



Robert Buss, Ph.D., founder of the
Purissima Hills Water District.

In 1951, neither the Water District nor Los Altos Hills were yet incorporated. If you lived in the Hills, the only water you had access to was very "hard" well water. Most families had to bring in bottled water for drinking. If you wanted soft water, 50 pounds of salt was used weekly to service water softeners.

Edwin Gerth, whose developments occasioned later standards in the hills, subdivided the acreage for the Buss home at the top of Gerth Lane off Page Mill Road. At the time, friends thought they were crazy to pay \$5,000 per acre for bare land! But they loved the magnificent giant oak tree (where they constructed a wonderful tree house, now however, in need of new floor) and the lovely southwestern views of hills and the valley peeking out below. Even though they depended on well water, Bob and Eugenia built their dream home on this lovely acre.

Because of Bob's engineering background and his skills at maintaining the mutual water supply for ten family residences on Gerth Lane, he became intimately involved with the

(Continued on page 4)

ELECTION RESULTS

Following the General Election on November 7th, Bob Fenwick, Mike O'Malley & Emily Cheng were elected to fill the 3 vacant seats on the LAH City Council. The new council members were seated on December 7, 2000.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

The Town's staff is following up on goals and objectives set by Council this year. Several of these objectives are scheduled to be completed in 2001 and several are scheduled for a two-year completion date.

In my opinion, some of the most important pertain to development of long range plans for improving and maintaining our infrastructure.

This includes implementation of our pavement management program already in place, a long-range sanitary sewer replacement program, a long-range storm sewer plan and long-range implementation and maintenance of pathways.

These long-range programs must also be accompanied by the necessary funding plans. The implementation of the first five year Capital Improvement Program approved by Council is due to begin July, 2001. Council will consider it at the same time as the 2001-2002 operating budget.

— Robert Quinlan



Bob Quinlan, Interim City Manager

WESTWIND 4H NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

The Westwind Riding Institute is searching for energetic volunteers who will help groom and lead horses, as well as walk beside riders during their lessons. WRI is a non-profit organization that offers twice weekly riding lessons to children with physical handicaps. No experience is necessary to volunteer, just a love of animals and dedication to the very special children of the community. Please call at (650) 947-8680 to volunteer, or visit us at Westwind Barn, 27210 Altamont Rd. Your call be returned as soon as possible. The program runs every Monday and Thursday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.



Town Newsletter - Statement of Purpose

To communicate current issues, services, and activities in Los Altos Hills to the residents of the Town and to facilitate, encourage and improve interaction between the residents and Town government. The 2001 Newsletter will be published quarterly in the months of March, June, September, and December. Deadline for the next issue is January 31, 2001. Internet Address: www.losaltoshills.ca.gov

About Our Publication

The Town Newsletter is published with assistance from our Town Volunteer Committees.
Editor: Dorothy Duffy Price
Associate Editors: Barbara Lamparter, Linda Seidel

Los Altos Hills City Council

• Steve Finn, Mayor • Toni Casey, Mayor Pro Tem
• Bob Fenwick • Mike O'Malley • Emily Cheng



A MESSAGE FROM OUR DEPUTIES

COMMUNITY POLICING –

THE GOAL OF OUR SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office is proud to provide police services to you and your fellow Los Altos Hills neighbors. While most of you are asleep at night or working during the day, Deputies are patrolling your neighborhood. Our goal is to address concerns and problems you have in addition to those we may have. We want to have a working relationship with you that will enable the Los Altos Hills Deputies to address the needs of your community.

The traditional practice of law enforcement consisted of officers "walking the beat." This allowed them to communicate with the residents and become familiar with overall concerns of the community. Over the years, as crime increased and the calls for police service increased, the relationship between the community and officers deteriorated. To restore relationships, a new concept of law enforcement known as "community based policing" has evolved. This concept is focused on re-introducing the traditional practice of law enforcement and working together with the community. By encouraging the residents to voice their concerns and problems, local law enforcement is able to provide a higher level of service.

The Sheriff's Office has adopted the concept of community based policing. Our Deputies hope to establish the relationship necessary to address the concerns and problems of Los Altos Hills. Each of your LAH Deputies takes great pride in his job and looks forward to working with you. Please contact them with any questions or concerns you may have. If they can't solve a particular problem, they can provide resources that will point you in the right direction.

Below is a list of the Deputies assigned to Los Altos Hills, by shift. Contact them at the Sheriff's West Valley Station, 24 hours a day at (408) 867-9719. If they are in the field or on a day off, leave a message on their voice mailbox: (Individual extensions are next to their names below.) They will check and return your message as soon as possible. They may also be contacted during duty hours through our non-emergency dispatch phone number, (408) 299-2311.

Day Shift (7 AM – 5 PM)

Deputy Jim Post (Ext. 327)
Deputy Louie Valdez (Ext. 355)

Swing Shift (3 PM - 1 AM)

Deputy Ruben Medina (Ext. 332)
Deputy Lance Longaker (Ext. 351)

Midnight Shift (11 PM – 9 AM)

Deputy Jeff Hunter (Ext. 322)
Deputy Michael Doty (Ext. 308)

For Council Agenda and Minutes,
See our Website:
www.losaltoshills.ca.gov

PUBLIC WORKS IN THE HILLS

Construction was completed this summer on the Purissima Road Pathway Project. The pathway is on the east side of Purissima Road from Robleda Road to Conception Road. The Town used several new concepts on this pathway construction in order to make the pathway as usable as possible for the handicapped.

Work started in September on this year's Pavement Management Project. This Project will reconstruct Elena Road, including storm drain improvements and a full-length pathway from Robleda Road to Purissima Road. The work should be completed by the end of the year, weather permitting. A new stabilized base material is going to be used to construct the pathway. This material should make the pathways more durable and require less maintenance.

The City Council was presented a study this summer recommending how sanitary sewers could serve the entire Town. With the cooperation and energy of many Town residents, this program is proceeding. Several sanitary sewer main line extension projects have been and are in the process of being constructed.

A street striping and pavement markings project was recently completed. Each spring the Town surveys and determines the condition of street stripes and pavement markings, and contracts for the reapplication of these items where needed. Thermoplastic, a thick plastic material is used instead of paint in school areas and in areas of high traffic. Thermoplastic, while more expensive, is much longer wearing.

As the end of the fall season approaches, the Town has completed the mowing of Town owned lands. The Town mows instead of discs in order to minimize soil erosion. The Fire Department has suggested that grass be kept less than 6" high. In many areas, this has required several passes over the spring and summer.

The Public Works Department has started yearly inspection and clean up of public storm drains and watercourses in preparation for this winter. Sand bags and sand will again be available for residents' needs at the Little League parking lot adjacent to the Public Works Barn on Purissima Road.

— Jim Rasp, Public Works Director

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE AND ZONING CHANGES FOR CONSTRAINED LOTS

On Thursday, January 4, 2001, at approximately 7:00 p.m., the City Council will consider the following revisions to the Zoning and Site Development Ordinance:

STANDARDS FOR "CONSTRAINED" LOTS. A proposed ordinance to revise development standards for *constrained lots*. These lots are parcels which, due to their small size and/or steep slopes, currently are limited to a Maximum Floor Area (MFA) of 4,000 square feet and a Maximum Development Area (MDA) of 5,000 square feet. Another category of restricted lot is a *conditional development permit lot*, which has a lot unit factor of less than 0.50. *Conditional development permit lots* are generally even more limited than other *constrained lots*, and typically require variances to determine allowable development on the site.

The proposed ordinance would modify the Town's existing standards by:

- Increasing the allowable development area on *constrained lots* to 6,500 square feet (rather than 5,000);
- Determining the allowable floor area on *conditional development permit lots* based on a formula which relates the lot unit factor to the 4,000 square foot limit, without requiring a variance;
- Determining the allowable development area on *conditional development permit lots* based on the allowable floor area plus 2,100 square feet, without requiring a variance.

The Town's Planning Commission has recommended the ordinance revisions and the City Council will act on the ordinance proposals subsequent to the public hearing. Copies of the draft ordinances are available from the Planning Department at Town Hall, and questions may be directed to the Department at (650) 941-7222. Any member of the public may appear to speak at the public hearing, or comments may be sent prior to the hearing to Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills 94022, or may be faxed to (650) 941-3160, or may be e-mailed to: planning@losaltoshills.ca.gov.

ARE YOU USING THE TOWN WEBSITE?

The Town is very interested in finding out how many residents are using the Town website. *Please use the Resident's Reply Card on page 6 to respond.*

The Community Relations Committee is suggesting that the Town update the site with a variety of improvements, e.g., municipal codes, ordinances, design guidelines and policies including a search capability. There are many other enhancements that can be placed on the site.



To the extent that our residents find the site useful, the City Council will be guided in their decision to enhance the website. We look forward to your feedback.

NEW PLANNING DIRECTOR APPOINTED

Carl Cahill, acting planning director since June 2000, was appointed planning director in mid-September 2000. Among his duties are the review of incoming home and subdivision development projects for compliance with zoning and site development codes. Additionally, Carl administers the planning and building departments and serves as staff to the planning commission.

Carl replaces the former planning director, Curtis Williams who left in June.

THE TOWN NEWSLETTER

(Dr. Buss continued from Page 1)

planning for adequate water in Los Altos Hills. However, Bob states, "Even then, residents of the Hills worried about growth issues. The late-comers to the Hills felt that if piped water was brought in, it might encourage more people to live here and change the rural ambience."

The election on March 29, 1955 formed a county water district; allowed it to issue bonds to provide the financing; and elected an original 5-member board of directors. The original board members were: Carol C. Fortriede, (Chairman); Robert R. Buss, (Vice Chairman); Leonard Burkhardt; William C. Neal; George Ditz, Jr. Louise Fortriede agreed to serve as the initial secretary.

At the first organization meeting, John P. Whitney was appointed attorney for the district, and the Clyde C. Kennedy firm was appointed to provide the engineering for the system. Later, as system installation began, Col. William Hicks was hired as secretary-manager. Subsequently, William McCann was hired to replace Col. Hicks, and Thomas Jenkins to replace John Whitney. Originally, the headquarters meetings were held at various private homes. With water available, however, pressure built to control development, leading to the incorporation of the Town of Los Altos Hills on January 27, 1956 with John Fowle as Mayor. Many of the same movers who were behind the formation of the water district worked for incorporation. The John Fowle family donated the parcel of land "for public service facilities" where the present Town Hall and Water District Headquarters now stand.

Mayor Jack Fowle offered the site to be rented to the district for \$1.00 per year, renewable at 10-year intervals. "That was an offer that the district could not refuse. So the present office was built there. Unfortunately, the third renewal date was passed unobserved, so the present "rent" is considerably more," jokingly says Bob.

Currently all district water is obtained from the San Francisco Hetch Hetchy supply line which delivers water to the Crystal Springs Reservoir by gravity flow all the way from the Sierra Nevada site of the Hetch Hetchy Dam located within Yosemite Park.

The Water District purchases the water, transmits it, and pumps it to be stored in several tanks located at strategic points generally within the Town limits. Water allocation from San Francisco's system is based on the original expected usage. However, the allocation has not increased along with development so at this time District residents are using more than allocated.

According to Dr. Buss, the politics of water revolve around population growth and quality of life issues. The bigger the houses are and the more extensive the landscaping the more water is needed. Thoughtful utilization of drought tolerant plants will make a serious contribution to conservation. The water district is currently looking toward obtaining additional water

supply with a long-term possibility of a new one million dollar pipeline connection to the Santa Clara Valley Water District at Loyola Corners. For the near term, for use in emergency situations, a trial well is being developed at Town Hall to evaluate the flow rates and water quality.

Another major issue will be the future fluoridation of the San Francisco water supply. Bob feels the "customers" should vote on this issue.

When asked about qualifications to serve on the board, Bob strongly emphasizes, "Executive and finance management skills, technical background and engineering skills, ability to ask intelligent questions. All of the board members are sincerely dedicated to community service and the public interest." They certainly are not doing the job for the compensation. Directors receive \$100 per month for their service. The members of the board are elected representatives of the residents within the district, but an election is held only when there are more candidates than vacancies. Otherwise, after certification by the Registrar of Voters, the Board of Supervisors formally appoints to fill vacancies on the board. This year since only three candidates applied for the three slots, all have been certified and all will be appointed. Dan Seidel, long time Los Altos Hills resident, and former member of the Board of Directors has been newly appointed to replace Bob. Present board members Jan Fenwick and Ernie Solomon have been re-appointed to new terms as well.

Bob has observed many changes in the past 45 years, the biggest he states, "Growth! There are now over 2000 connections. In the beginning, there was only a single storage pressure zone, now there are three. There is, however, need for increased storage capacity for use in case of emergency."

Los Altos Hills has been the beneficiary of Bob's remarkable knowledge, skills and abilities for over 45 years. "I will miss Dr. Buss's wisdom, good judgment, and particularly his amazing memory regarding district details back to the 50's! (Not to mention his jokes!)," says Jan Fenwick, Former President of the Board of Directors.

We are fortunate indeed that he will remain available as a resource to the water district and he promises to attend a few meetings as time allows – but we also hope that he finds time to replace the floor in that favorite tree house. No doubt he will!

Thank you, Bob for your outstanding contributions to the Purissima Hills Water District and the Town of Los Altos Hills.



Bob and Eugenia Buss next to their favorite oak tree.



Water District office building on Town Hall grounds.

THE TOWN NEWSLETTER

*Art Exhibit Invitation
The Town of Los Altos Hills
cordially invites you
to view a new exhibit featuring local artists on display in
the Los Altos Hills Council Chambers
Opening Reception Sunday, January 7th, 2-4 PM. Public Invited*

*WILLIAM CARTER - PHOTOGRAPHY
SHARON CHINEN - THREE -DIMENSIONAL FORMS*



*Exhibit open to the public
Exhibit Dates: Jan. 7 - March 23, 2001
Monday - Friday
8 AM - Noon and 1 - 5 PM*



Information: Please call Ethel Blank, Exhibit Curator at 948-5840

RESIDENT SENDS THANKS

We would like to thank resident parent Rebecca Hickman for conceptualizing, planning and organizing the Ohlone Camp at Westwind Barn this last August. From hiring a California State Ohlone Culture Docent (who also happened to be a 3rd grade teacher), to purchasing fault line maps for their "earthquake hikes," Rebecca ensured that the kids would love learning about the Ohlone Culture. The one-week day camp quickly became a favorite part of all the campers' summer. A dozen nine year olds hunted for banana slugs, "speared" deer (targets hanging from an oak tree) with their hand made feather spears, painted their teepee with petroglyphs, searched for hawk feathers, discovered some of the fault lines that run through Byrne Preserve, drew pictographs, and made many discoveries (some edible) on their nature walks. It was a very special week, and we all want to sincerely thank Rebecca for achieving her vision of the perfect "Hills" camp!

Sincerely,

Twinkle Lyman — for all the Ohlone Camp 2000 campers



Rebecca Hickman at the Kids Ohlone Camp, August 2000.



The Great Teepee that Rebecca and her husband Paul made, with the help of Scott Vanderlip.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Openings exist for the following committees: Community Relations, Environmental Design, Finance, Investments, Pathways & Safety. Applications are available in the City Clerk's Office at Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road during regular office hours (8 am - Noon: 1-5 pm). Contact City Clerk, Pat Dowd at 941-7222.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

OUR TOWN

One of the joys of serving as the Editor of the Town Newsletter is the opportunity to interview long-time residents of our Town. Such was the case with my recent interview of Dr. Robert Buss, who most certainly should be considered a "founding father." After serving 45 years on the Purissima Hills Water District Board of Directors, Dr. Buss is retiring in December. In our conversations I learned many interesting facts about the history of our Town. I could not help but see certain parallels between "then" and "now." I hope you enjoy learning about the importance of the interrelationship of water in the development of the Hills.



It is with great affection that we say "adieu" to two of our senior city council members who did not seek reelection. We shall miss both Elayne Dauber, a most intelligent and diligent colleague, who has just completed 8 years on the council and Bob Johnson, a gentleman statesman who has served our community for 12 years. In addition to their regular elected council duties, both have served on the council advisory committee for the Town Newsletter. We have enjoyed working with them to produce this quarterly publication. Their insight, leadership and journalistic skills have made the Town Newsletter a balanced publication that is a fun to read and fulfills the mission of the Community Relations Committee to communicate the current issues, services and activities to the residents of the Town. Their legacy for the Town Newsletter is that future publications of the newsletter will maintain the same high standards that they helped to establish.

Happy Holidays,

— Duffy Price, Editor

THE TOWN NEWSLETTER

RESIDENT REPLY CARD

1. Do you use the Town's Website? Yes No
2. Are you pleased with the timeliness of information posted on the site?
 Yes No
3. How frequently do you use the site: Daily Weekly Monthly
4. What other websites do you use to gain information about the Town?
5. Do you have any suggestions for information you would like included on the website?

Thank you very much!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please cut form along the dotted line, and return to
Town Hall: 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
or FAX 941-3160

BOY SCOUTS ATTEND CITY COUNCIL MEETING



Boy Scout Troop No. 35 from St. Nicholas School attended the LAH City Council Meeting on October 6th. The Scouts attended the meeting with their leader Kay Essary, to fulfill requirements to earn their Merit Badge for "Citizenship in the Community." Pictured above L. to R. in the front row are: Paul Faucett, Stephen Si-Chei, Kenny McCandless, Tommy McCandless, Matthew Essary and Kay Essary, Scout Leader. Seated behind Kay is Danny McCandless.

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PATHWAY ADVENTURES SERIES NO. 2 TOWN HISTORY PATHWAY WALK

Historical Contributions from Malcolm Clark and Les Earnest

The Town of Los Altos Hills is a treasure chest of historical interest. We have Ohlone Indian Sites near O'Keefe and El Monte area, houses for famous actors, farmers, and summer homes for wealthy San Franciscans.

One of the best ways to learn about this Town's history and explore it is to set out on foot on the Los Altos Hills pathway system. A number of these sites can be seen on a fairly level 2.5-mile walk or bike ride utilizing a combination of on-road and off-road pathway segments.

Start at the Bullis School (25890 Fremont Road), turn left out of the parking lot and continue on Fremont until the first stop sign, and turn right onto Manuella Road. About 1 block down is Mulberry Road where the Gardner Bullis house (14085 Mulberry Road), built in 1870, is located. He was Town's first attorney and donated the land for the nearby Bullis Elementary School.

Continue down Manuella Road and turn left on Altadena Road and then right onto Kingsley Drive. On your LAH pathway map for this location, you will see some 30 plus very tiny "picnic" lots defined, only 30 X 112 feet in size. These lots were originally for sale in 1913 as "picnic lots" where owners would drive down from San Francisco or take the train and have a picnic on their own land. More recently, neighboring homeowners have consolidated 13 to 14 of these small lots into building sites. Many houses elsewhere in LAH were also originally constructed for vacation purposes, as small summer cabins, or hunting lodges.

At the end of Kingsley Drive, turn left into Esther Clark Park. This park was deeded to the City of Palo Alto in 1975 by pioneer pediatrician Dr. Esther Clark, who grew up on the Stanford Campus and lived after 1932 near the northwest end of the park. She bought the land in 1946 from her neighbors, Ruolf and Gerda Eisenberg.

In the late 1920's, Ruolf and Gerta Eisenberg had an airstrip and hanger for their light aircraft in what is now Esther Clark Park.

Continue across Esther Clark Park all the way to Old Trace Lane and turn left on Old Trace Lane.

Take Old Trace to Fremont Road and turn left. Continue on Fremont Road until just past Palo Hills Drive and take the off-road pathway connector on your right to Ortega Drive. At Ortega, jog right and cross the street to another off-road path that will take you behind Pinewood School. This nice creek side path is great for catching frogs and tadpoles at the right time of the year.

Continue on this path until it returns to Fremont Road and turn right onto Fremont. At 26379 Fremont Road is the Town's first and current Town Hall built in 1956 by Town volunteers. The small historical house that houses part of the Town Staff, the Sheriff station and LAH history room at the Town Hall site was originally located in downtown Los Altos and was moved to this site in mid 1980.

There are historic artifacts and historical farming equipment on display at Town Hall.

Continue and bear left on Fremont Road past Town Hall back toward Bullis School. At La Paloma Road, turn right and continue on La Paloma and turn left on Todd Lane. Go up Todd lane and take the off-road path down toward Bullis School. Once you reach Bullis school property, take the path to the right to meet up with the path that connects to Campo Vista.

At the corner of Campo Vista and Fremont Road is the Dr C.C. Crane residence built in 1926 which was also the childhood home of retired Senator Alan Cranston.

Turn left onto Fremont to return back to the Bullis School parking lot.

To learn more about the Town's history, contact the Town Hall for open hours for using the History Room and the Town's Historical Society.



Explore pathways in Los Altos Hills with your children.

— Scott Vanderlip, Pathway Committee Co-Chair

Los Altos Library Events

Elayne Dauber of Los Altos Hills has been honored by the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) and by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors for her long-term commitment to the County Library system. She has served on various library commissions and boards. One of the original members of the JPA since its inception in 1985 (and chair last year), she recently finished her service to that organization.

Now patrons can receive notices from the Santa Clara County Library by email. The library will send the titles of holds when they are ready for pickup, and first overdue notices. To sign up for email notification, patrons should obtain a form at the Los Altos Library reference desk and turn it in at the circulation desk. At the Woodland Library, patrons should ask at the circulation desk. Patrons who sign up for email notification will not receive hold or first overdue notices by regular mail.

The popular Great Decisions discussion series will be held again on Monday mornings from 10 to noon, starting in February. (Contact the library for the exact starting date.)

The Los Altos Library's book discussion series continues with five books in the winter and spring. The book discussions are on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the small conference room at Los Altos Library.

- January 17 – Beloved by Toni Morrison
- February 7 – Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishiguro
- March 7 – Ragtime by E.L. Doctorow
- April 11 – Grapes of Wrath
- May 9 – Corelli's Mandolin

Everyone is welcome to attend; no reservations necessary.

Upcoming events for the Los Altos Library include:

- 2nd Tuesday of each month, Great Books Club, 6-8 p.m.
- January 10, Jon Eckels poetry reading, 7:30 p.m.
- January 19-21, Friends of the Library Used Book Sale, Hillview Community Center
- January 25 – Gordon Lee will perform Chinese music for children (ages 3 and up), 7 p.m.
- February 14, Ballet San Jose of Silicon Valley's Dance Dialogue on "Diverging Paths: Three Widely Different European Choreographers," 6:30 –7:30 p.m.
- February 22, Joanne Hammill, singer/songwriter to perform at Bedtime Storytime, 7-7:45 p.m.

For more information on events at the Los Altos Library, call 948-7683 x3519 or go to the Library's web site: www.santaclaracountylib.org/losaltos/events.html

For more news about the Library, go to: www.santaclaracountylib.org/losaltos/news.html



JOIN THE HOLIDAY CAROLING PARTY

Pathways Caroling Event - Thursday, December 21st 7:30-8:30 PM. Meet at Town Hall for hot cider and short practice before caroling for homes around Town Hall. Bring a flashlight and warm clothes. Kids and families are welcomed. For more information please contact Scott Vanderlip at (650) 948-6455.

